

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I had a little support I saw up there even without closing, and my purpose really...my purpose really in entering the amendment was to show you the ridiculousness of this bill. It really doesn't make sense. If we're going to start exempting for everybody, for all improvements, then we just start the process of exempting everybody from everything. Why should we? This bill has nothing to do with helping the poor, the disadvantaged... nothing whatsoever. People of means are going to be doing much more construction than poor people. Of course. So why do you want it? Now Senator Simon, if you wanted to help the poor then why didn't you say so and set in something in this bill that has to do with the income, but no nothing is there. We're just lopping off a portion of taxation that governmental entities need. I think the bill is ridiculous, and my purpose in entering this was to show you what you're starting. Mr. Chairman, I ask permission to withdraw my amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The unanimous consent request is the withdrawal of the Nichol amendment. Hearing no objections, so ordered. Are we ready now to proceed to the motion which will advance the bill? Senator Maresh, do you wish to speak to the main motion now to advance the bill to E & R for...

SENATOR MARESH: Yes, Mr. Speaker, a question of Senator Simon. Who will determine the value of the improvements?

SENATOR SIMON: Senator Maresh, the County Assessors just like they do right now.

SENATOR MARESH: But there's a difference if a person does his own work, the improvements, who's going to set the value of the labor?

SENATOR SIMON: The same way they do right now, Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: But they'll have to make an on-site visit every time you improve, you paint the house, you'd have to call the Assessor in and he'd have to...

SENATOR SIMON: Well, no, let me...if I might respond. If I do that right now, how is the Assessor...if I do that right now, say I painted my house and did some other things versus having a private contractor do it, how does the County Assessor make the determination? Do they value it differently